

## City of Urbana Receives \$12,720 Grant For Police Car and Equipment

The City of Urbana received \$12,720 in a Mock Check ceremony April 22, 2005, at the Urbana Baptist Church Community Building. Grant funds will be used to purchase an additional police car equipped with radar and a dash mounted camera along with other police equipment. The additional resources are intended to help improve the public safety of the 407 residents.

Senator Jim Talent, a member of the Senate Agricultural Committee, said, "I am very pleased to announce that the City of Urbana will be receiving this grant. Our law enforcement officers should have the best equipment available to help protect our communities. This additional police car will increase patrolling and response time in the event of an emergency. By making these funds available, we are taking the necessary steps to improve safety in the community."



Left to Right: Ursula Rhodes, Alderman; Debbie Glass, Alderman; Lois Strouse, City Clerk; Steve Kenall, Police Chief; Congressman Ike Skelton; Vickie Umfleet, Retired Rural Development Area Specialist; Patrick Morrow, Field Representative for Senator Bond; Jerry Finley, Rural Development Area Director; Mayor Vickie Streicher

Congressman Ike Skelton presented the mock check to the city and said, "I am so pleased that the City of Urbana has received this USDA Rural Development grant to purchase an additional police car. Whether on regular patrol or responding to an emergency, we depend on law enforcement officers to be available when we call. This grant will help ensure that the Urbana Police Department has the equipment needed to protect public safety."

Jerry Finley, Area Director, USDA Rural Development said, "It is gratifying to be of assistance to the City of Urbana in helping make this community safer for their residents with the added police car and equipment purchased with the USDA Rural Development grant."

Mayor Vickie Streicher and Police Chief Steve Kenall expressed their appreciation, "We appreciate receiving grant money from USDA Rural Development. The City could not have purchased the additional police car and needed equipment without the aid of the additional funds."

Greg Branum, Missouri State Director for USDA Rural Development said, "Special thanks are extended to our federal elected officials including U.S. Senators "Kit" Bond and Jim Talent plus U.S. Representative Ike Skelton for making available federal monies for funding this kind of project providing essential services for the community." Branum added, "This kind of assistance mirrors USDA Rural Development's mission and President Bush's initiative of being committed to the future of rural communities."

Anyone seeking more information about this or any other USDA Rural Development program may visit the homepage at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo/> or by contacting Leon Melvin, Rural Development Manager, at 688 S.

State Highway B, Suite 400, Springfield, MO, 65802, or by calling (417) 831-5246 extension 4 or by email to [leon.melvin@mo.usda.gov](mailto:leon.melvin@mo.usda.gov).

**“Committed to the future of rural communities.”**

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